

MAINE FARMER AND MECHANIC'S ADVOCATE.

PUBLISHED BY WILLIAM NOYES.

"OUR HOME, OUR COUNTRY, AND OUR BROTHER MAN."

EZEKIEL HOLMES, Editor.

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Agriculture produces a patriot in the truest acceptation
of the word.—Talleyrand.



MAINE FARMER.

Report

Of the Corresponding Secretary of the Kennebec Co.
Agricultural Society.

To THE HON. PHILIP C. JOHNSON, Sec'y of State—

SIR—Herewith I send you the statements of the several competitors for premiums offered by the K. Co. Ag. Society, also the Report of the Treasurer in regard to the expenditure of the funds of said Society. It gives me pleasure to be able to state, that not only in our own County, but in many others of the State, there is an increased attention being paid to the "parent art." The season during the past year has been one very peculiar in its changes and in the irregularity which was experienced in different portions of our State. The winter lingered long in the "lap of May," much to the annoyance of the farmers. It was not until the 20th of the month that we had any of the warm breezes and refreshing showers so peculiar to spring and so full of hope to the cultivators of the soil. Previous to that, it had been cold, stormy and frosty, and, as is usual when visited by such weather, we were daily greeted with murmuring at the present, and gloomy forebodings of the future. From the 20th till the 18th July we had a beautiful season, in which the influences of sun and showers were happily combined, and vegetation of all kinds came forward with a rapidity that soon gave an earnest of abundant crops. After this period, a drouth commenced, which in the western sections of the State was unparalleled for duration and severity, and which in this County retarded the amount of almost every species of crop. Yet although the amount was diminished, the quality was good. Wheat, being sown late, escaped the weevil, and either because the black sea variety was more generally sown, which resists the rust, or because the season was not such as to induce the rust, but very little complaint has been heard of damage from that evil. Indian corn ripened well where the drouth permitted it to arrive to a proper growth—some fields were however so badly fired that but little except fodder was gathered.

Potatoes were diminished in quantity but were never better in quality. There is an increased demand made every year upon us, from abroad, for this article, and of course there is a corresponding increase of attention to the culture. The varieties which are held in most estimation in this County are the Chenango (Philadelphia), long reds, and the pink eyes. The Robans have probably had their day, although they are a prolific variety and may come into more general use than they now are. Apples were abundant and excellent.

In regard to stock, no importations into the County have come to our knowledge. The attention which began some time ago to be paid to swine has not diminished, although pork has not brought its customary price in the market. The favorite breed is the Berkshires, and in the attention to this, a former very excellent breed is in a fair way to become extinct among us, viz: the Bedford. We deem it a matter of special regret that there is not a full blood Bedford to be found in the County.

The fluctuation in the wool market, and the low price which that article bears, have induced many farmers to diminish their flocks.

Large working oxen have been in good demand, and our farmers still keep up a good degree of enterprise in having the best breeds, and pride in keeping them in a thrifty, growing condition.

The cattle Shows in the several counties were well attended and passed off with satisfaction to all interested. That of the Kennebec County was superior in the number and excellence of working oxen and steers exhibited at any of its former shows. Since the last annual report, a new Society has been organized in the county which divided the funds received from this State.

The spirit which leads to the increase of Agricultural Societies, is one which should be encouraged by a corresponding liberality on the part of the State, inasmuch as the benefits are reciprocal. The former causing a thirst for agricultural knowledge, and bringing about an increase in the value of farms, stock and taxable property, as well as making the farmer more happy, more contented and more patriotic, and the latter feeding and fostering this feeling, and thereby binding him with the cords of interest and love to the prosperity, the elevation and the defence of the State. The donations of the State have hitherto had this effect, and a continuance and increase of it will ever be followed with the same results. Besides, they serve as a balance wheel to the fiscal concerns of the societies, regulating the deficiencies which may arise from the apathy of those who can but will not, or from the inability of those who would but cannot contribute to the support of the Society. "Agriculture," says Taylor in his Arator, is the guardian of liberty and the mother of wealth. Government will be wise to cherish a calling which is characterized by such attributes, and a little timely additional encouragement freely and cordially bestowed, will become like the seed sown upon good ground, productive of benefits an hundred fold.

Very respectfully, your Ob't Servt.

E. HOLMES, Cor. Sec. Ken. Co. Ag. Soc.
Winthrop, Jan. 27, 1842.

TUSCARORA HOG.—We have just examined the carcass of a Tuscarora Hog, killed by Messrs. J. & J. Glidden of this town, which we think had the most pork in the smallest bundle of any hog that we ever saw. He weighed, the day after being slaughtered, 446 lbs. He was three years and a few months old, measured only four feet and three inches from the insertion of his ears to the insertion of his tail, and girted five feet three inches. He afforded over two hundred weight of clear pork.

Agricultural Meeting at the State House.

AUGUSTA, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 26, '42.
Your reporter entered the Representatives' Hall at half past 6 o'clock, the hour to which the last meeting adjourned, and found the Hall lighted with the requisite number of spermaceti candles, but not a human being within its area, excepting the assistant messenger, who was somewhere in the precincts and soon made his appearance, the reporter was the only "friend of Agriculture" that assembled at the meeting, till near the hour of seven, other friends then straggled in, but the number was not so great as might be wished, considering the important nature of the subjects for which these meetings were called.

I am not of the number of those who decry politics and politicians, for I hold political science, in high estimation, and honor all politicians who rightly estimate the dignity of their high vocation. Nor am I willing to bestow censure upon any; even the agricultural portion of the members of the Legislature, for neglecting the Agricultural meetings, when political duties intervene and obstruct their attendance. They are sent here for political purposes, and these they should perform, honestly and industriously, and in that manner which will insure the approbation of their own consciences and of their constituents. This is the first and highest duty which they owe to their electors, whose servants they are, and no right judging man would ask them to turn aside from their political duties, for any other public or secular purpose whatever.

The agricultural meetings at the State House are held on Wednesday evenings, and that evening was selected purposely to accommodate the members of the Legislature; for there are no political meetings, or other known engagements, which may necessarily prevent the attendance of a respectable portion of the Legislature. It would be inferred that the farmers, who constitute a goodly portion of the members, would on no account suffer these meetings to go by unimproved. When such men as Dr. Bates, Holmes and Nourse, and when such venerable men as Joseph H. Jenne, and Major Wood, will leave their personal and private engagements, and ride miles for the purpose of imparting and receiving information in relation to the subject of Agriculture, which lies so near to the foundation of all other interests, it would very naturally be supposed, that on such evenings, the Hall of assembling would be thronged with anxious and concerned visitants.—These gentlemen are practical and scientific Agriculturists, and we venture to say, that should they advertise a lecture on Agriculture in almost any of the towns and villages of our State, and charge a fee for admittance, that their meetings would be attended by numerous, respectable and intelligent auditors, and money would be readily exchanged for instruction. It is a little singular then, that these gentlemen cannot succeed in obtaining an audience of a week evening at the State House in Augusta, during the session of the Legislature, a period when visitors throng from the Capitol from every part of the State. Yet such it must be confessed is the fact. "The friends of Agriculture," who attend the Agricultural meetings at the State House, are "few and far between." I would say to all those, who plead the all absorbing nature of politics, as a hindrance, "these things ye ought to have done and not to have left the other undone." An attendance upon these meetings would fit the legislator to discharge his political duties in a better manner, for he would thereby obtain much useful information, "fresh from the people," in relation to the one great and prominent interest of our State. I trust the members of the Legislature, and the people of Augusta will wake up on this matter, and give these meetings at least an equality of consideration with Ladies' Fairs, and lectures on Moral Reform.

The whole number of attendants this evening is less than twenty-five, all told. President and Secretary of the former meetings being absent, Mr. Lane called to order, and nominated Mr. Fostel of Winthrop, for Chairman. Mr. Baxter, of Wilton, then moved that the meeting adjourn without day, as it was evident there was not interest enough felt by the friends of agriculture to warrant the continuance of a series of meetings as was contemplated by the first movers.

An Irish historian in his chapter on snakes, disposes of them summarily, thus—"Snakes in Ireland—there are none."—In like manner I might include the proceedings of the "meeting of the friends of agriculture," for the whole object of proceeding to organize, was to vote to proceed—to no proceedings, for the evening, which object was readily accomplished without any one's speaking against time.

Silk Machine.

MR. HOLMES.—Being informed that you are favorably inclined toward American industry, I take the liberty to address you, to inform you, and through you and your valuable paper, the people of your State—who are disposed to raise their own silk, that we have here a labor saving apparatus for their use, far superior to any we have ever heard of at the East—

1st. Secures the most perfect ventilation to the worm in all its stages, thereby rendering them healthy at all times.

2d. It enables the tender to change them with great rapidity,—even 100,000 per hour.

3d. It furnishes the most complete winding chambers, exactly suited to the wishes of the worm.

4th. The cocoons can be gathered from these chambers five hundred per cent faster than from any other known, saving all the loss perfectly clean.

5th. It can be adapted to a room of any size, and may be used in any spare room or parlor without injury.

6th. It may be made by any one who can use a hand saw and hammer, and at an expense little more than that of plain shelves—being the most simple and most economical as well as the best method of fitting up a cocoonery, ever yet invented either in Europe or America.

A letter enclosing one dollar current in New York and Boston, free of expense to the proprietor shall be answered, and enclose a perfect drawing and description so perfectly plain that it may be understood by any one who can read the description—and twenty-five dollars enclosed as above shall entitle the payer or payee to five rights, or to the right to the county in which they live.—Single rights ten dollars, and a perfect model sent to order.

Any printer who will publish the above and forward one number of the paper containing the notice to the inventor shall be entitled to a right for his own use.

My apparatus is anxiously enquired for from Tennessee to New Hampshire, and we can, we must and we will make our own silk.—Enclosed is a small specimen of silk the growth and manufacture of Ohio. Respectfully yours,

A. SPALDING, M. D.
Marietta, Ohio, Jan. 5, 1842.

NOTE.—We cheerfully comply with Dr. Spalding's request. If his machine will do what he says it will, it is an invaluable improvement.

The specimen of silk which accompanied the above is a beautiful figured pattern, equal to any imported from Lyons, or any other place, and fully proves that we can make our own silk. By suitable encouragement the U. States could supply themselves and all the world besides with silk of any description.

Salutid co.; Janeeth of our P. D's blunders, and giveth a chapter on Pines.

Saco River, Jan. 4, 1841.

DEAR DOCTOR:—Your devil deserves a scratched back from a Catamount's claw, for dating the appearance of the animal which caused such a commotion and turn out in our midst, twenty years later than he really came among us. Instead of 1837, I wrote, or should have written 1817 as the period of the Painter hunt. However, if your type sticker will correct the error, we will compromise the affront, and instead of the ferocity of the Catamount, we will mutually exhibit to each other the playfulness of young Kitty-mounts.—Thus much by way of Errata.

I see in your article on Pine trees, you say, "the pitch pine is not abundant in Maine." It only shows that you have not travelled up and down Saco River or passed much time in York County. The upper part of Hollis, four square miles at least, is all pitch pine plain. Most that were large enough for mill logs have been cut in years past, but enough is still taken off yearly for domestic use. The growth of the plains is considered valuable for wood, and the pitch pine, after being seasoned makes a good hot fire. Much of it is hauled into the Saco market, whence it is shipped to Boston. It is burned in furnaces and in steam Boats. Standish and Baldwin in Cumberland County have still more extensive plains, from which timber of moderate size is yet obtained, and great quantities of wood is yearly sent down the Cumberland and Oxford Canal. There are likewise, extensive plains, covered with pitch pine, in Brownfield and Fryeburg, still further up the River in Oxford County. The beautiful village of Fryeburg is situated on a pine plain, and the people of Fryeburg village number a goodly proportion of thriving and wealthy farmers. The plain produces light crops, corn, peas, beans, &c. but nothing of grass. The red farms are made from the broad intervals, which lies directly back of the village and is unsurpassed by any soil in the State for its fertility. It produces grass of the best quality, of every variety, and to a great amount.

Almost all the towns in York County contain pitch pine plains. Saco has its share, and much of it has been converted into farms. It is easy of tillage, but the man who depends on it, must work hard for a living. Waterboro' can number its acres of plain in big figures. The farmers in that town convert much of it into charcoal, which finds a ready sale in the Portland market. Lyman, Wells, Sanford, and the Berwick may be enumerated, as including within their limits a vast extent of the same description of soil.

The County West of Saco River, comprising all of York County, resembles more nearly New Hampshire, than Maine in all its distinctive features. The north part of the County, if not mountainous is hilly, and as Granite as the Granite State. The middle and lower towns bear a similar relation to the lower towns in New Hampshire, comprised in Stratford and Rockingham Counties.

Pitch-pine-plains, were once as little esteemed as self-righteousness, the possession of which makes a man's poverty the more apparent. Men used to wonder that other men would purchase, much less settle themselves for life upon it. An old man heretofore used to account for all such locations, by presuming, that the different varieties of soil were suited to the different varieties of people,—so that where there was pitch pine plain there were pitch pine people to live on and cultivate it.

Recent years have brought our pine plains into good repute. The timber is first valuable, and next the wood, and then there are those who declare that its soil, has never been duly valued for cultivation.

White oak too grows abundantly in this county, and is much used for ship building. If you want white oak acorns for planting in Kennebec, just send some agents and you may be supplied free of all cost—though may be the children and squirrels will complain of any abatement of their winter stores. The shrub oak grows on all the pine plains. Red and yellow oak is also abundant. We have in addition a goodly quantity of the walnut, which is valuable, and is the best of wood.

The White Pine on this River is mostly of the black sapling variety, and reproduces itself; so we may always hope to have pine timber on Saco River.

It grows very rapidly, and many lots that were cleared thirty years since, of all the pine trees suitable for mill logs are now among our most valuable and extensive timber lots, and teams are being extensively employed on the Saco the present winter. The Norway pine is also abundant. There is a species called the yellow pine, which the uninitiated in arboral treasures mistake for the pitch pine. It is found in the Pequawkete country, quite abundant. It differs from the pitch pine in being a more comely, straighter, and smoother barked tree. The sap is very thin, it being almost all heart; whereas the pitch pine has a small heart, and is almost all sap, and I have been told that trees have been cut on the plains where the sap was found to lap over the heart four inches. We have hemlock in our swamps, which will yet form a valuable article for manufacture. The pine is so much better than they are quite neglected.—They only bide their time.

One of our old weather cocks, who in times past observed the changes of the weather as readily as the one that surmounts the church spire indicates them by turning, used to say that when the first snow comes upon the ground in a thawed state,—"look out for a nasty winter." The saying is verified, so far as this one has proceeded. "Tis dirty and sloppy and yet chilly enough to keep a fellow in a perpetual fit of the shivers.

Yours truly,

NOTE.—We are not much acquainted with the Saco region, except in the upper parts around Pequawket, where we have seen a few of the pitch pines.

We have some doubts about our friend's yellow pine being any thing more than a variety of one of the others, its difference being occasioned by circumstances of soil &c. We should like to see some of the yellow oaks that he speaks of.

The forest trees of Maine ought to be examined and carefully described. We once commenced that work, and made considerable progress—but—circumstances which never occur to have visited us, compelled us to relinquish the undertaking.—Ed.

Sick Cow.

MR. HOLMES.—My sister who is a widow, purchased a cow last spring that had just calved, shortly afterwards the cow was taken sick, her water resembling blood, she grew weak and lost her appetite, and could not walk without staggering. Shortly after, she apparently recovered, but soon became stiff in her limbs, particularly her fore shoulders and legs, so that it was with difficulty she could walk or lie down, and continued in this state for three months, she became very poor although possessing a good appetite, and being well fed having provender every day, had great difficulty to lie down or get up, and was given up as past cure, when, happening to be on a visit, I recommended a table spoonful of spirits of turpentine applied between the horns every morning, and in three or four days the stiffness left her, and she began to gain flesh rapidly, gives a good mess of milk, and is now a valuable cow, no other medicine except a little salt petre after the spirits turpentine was applied. It is now about three months since the remedy was applied. If you think this worthy of a place, you are at liberty to publish it.

WILLIAM BURNS.

Agricultural Survey.

Ruta Bagas—Straw and other poor fodder.

MR. HOLMES.—My old friend Ruta Baga, seems to be in a fair way "to get more kicks than coppers." For this I am really sorry, but I cannot help it. I will cheerfully acknowledge my own obligations to him, and tender him my best wishes still. On to other words, to lay aside all metaphor, and converse about stubborn facts, I will relate some which came under my own immediate observation.

Last winter, we all know, was one of considerable severity—the ground covered with snow unusually long, and hay scarce. I was conscious in the beginning of winter, that I was short of hay for a moderate one; but being plentifully provided with roots, I concluded to risk the chance. The severity of the winter, however brought my cattle and sheep to short allowance.

In managing my sheep through the winter, I did not give them more than two thirds, if I did more than half as much hay as they would eat; and I should think nearer the latter quantity than the former. Besides this, they had about one third of a bushel of Ruta Bagas to 20 sheep per day. My sheep did well. Of 14 lambs I lost but one, and that was as smart as any when first dropped, and the dam one of the likeliest and best mothers in the flock. It somehow got chilled in the snow.

I would further observe, that the last spring was an unfortunate one for lambs; for as far as my enquiries extended more than half the number dropped, perished. I took considerable pains to enquire of some of the most careful farmers in town, as to the treatment of their flocks; and was unable to find that the most careful attendance made much difference. One farmer in particular, and one who always tends his cattle well, told me that besides giving his sheep a plenty of hay, he fed to them a quantity of corn, the amount of which I do not recollect. He stated further to me that one other farmer in the neighborhood, who fed roots to his sheep (I forget the kind) did not lose but one lamb in nearly thirty. The farmer first referred to lost more than half of his.

One farmer who keeps a hundred sheep or more and fed on nothing but hay, was equally fortunate with me; but his lambs with the exception of two or three were dropped late, which perhaps may account for his good fortune.

I can further testify that healthy cattle, when sent daily on the poorest fodder, may still be kept in a healthy, thriving state, by feeding them daily with a moderate quantity of Ruta Bagas a day, say a half a peck or so. Of this I have had two fair trials—one of them last winter, and one of them some 4 or 5 years ago.

What the value of Ruta Bagas are, compared with potatoes or other roots, I cannot say; but it is a burlesque on common sense to talk as some do about them.

STRAW &c.—Some people think so little of straw

as to recommend it to be cured for nothing else but litter, thinking this the best way to get it into manure. For my part I can see no reason why it should be less valuable for manure for passing through the entrails of cattle, and I know from experience that cattle, when tended properly, will eat the poorest fodder clean, that grows on any farm, unless damaged by slovenly neglect. Give cattle a plenty of salt, and some roots, and what one kind leaves pass to another; observing to fodder in cribs, or some way that they cannot trample on it. Having also a regard to the weather, by giving them the poorest fodder in keen cold weather. If the cattle at any time appear dainty and leave some oats, pitch them away in a corner of the barn, sprinkle a little brine, and give it to them occasionally as they want salt.

As to the benefit cattle derive from laying on a bed of litter, I have nothing to say at present. It may easily be tried, and proved to be a demonstration what it is; and I shall be happy to record experiments of this kind.

I should also be equally happy to record experiments, showing by accurate test, the comparative value of all green food for feeding cattle of every description.

J. H. J.

Peru, Dec. 11, 1841.

To the Farmers and Mechanics of Maine.

MR. HOLMES.—To make the Maine Farmer the most of a blessing to the Farmers and Mechanics of these United States, is the object of the proprietors and Editor. To do this, we wish persons of theory or experience to send communications on the following subjects, to the Farmer office, that the public may have the benefit thereof, and that the paper may be what it was designed to be, the medium of communication for farmers and mechanics.

1. In what way can swamp mud be used as a manure to the best advantage, and on what land?

2. What portion of our farms ought to be kept in tillage, and to what crops ought they to be applied?

3. Ought wheat to be made the principal tillage crop in the present state of our country?

4. What is the profit of an average crop of wheat, compared with Indian corn, barley, oats, or peas?

5. May not wheat be made the surest crop of any, with proper manure, tillage and a proper selection and change of seed by importation or otherwise?

6. How much capital ought to be used each year on a farm of from one to two hundred acres of land?

7. How much neat or other stock ought to be raised or kept on our farms of from one to two hundred acres, to be the most profitable?

8. Ought the State of Maine to be a stock raising or a grain raising State, or both; and if both, in what proportions ought they to be pursued?

9. What are the natural advantages of the State of Maine compared with other States in the Union?

10. To what extent would it be proper to pursue the mechanic arts?

11. What ought to be the policy of the Legislature and State as respects agriculture and the mechanic arts?

12. Does agriculture and the mechanic arts more enrich a State than any other profession and in what proportion?

13. Ought religion and morals to be the first object in all States and nations?

14. Are not religion and morals best obtained by a due degree of fostering Agriculture and the Mechanic arts, in union with teachers of piety, religion and morality?

Are not the morals of a country to be best known by female chastity and the observance of the Sabbath?

15. Are not the root crops to be preferred to an extent as far as they can be used in our stocks, and exportation in point of profit?

16. Are not root crops the best cleansers of our soil from weeds, &c., if taken as good care of and as well tilled as they require. Would not all our grain pay well for weeding at least once a year?

17. Must we not introduce the weeding of grain crops as practised in England, France and other countries?

18. Are our long winters an objection to our State?

19. Are the longest lives and greatest happiness best obtained in cold or hot countries; or in middle latitudes?

20. Has not elevation and other local causes, more effect upon climate than latitude?

Please Mr. correspondents to answer the above, and I will give you more. And you Mr. Editor correct and select from the above. Let's have no lazy persons within our reach.

Jan. 28, 1842.

A SUBSCRIBER.

Agriculture a Staff of Liberty.

MR. HOLMES.—Although I am not a subscriber to your valuable paper, still I have read much in the same. I think it is excellent because it is so useful. I thought I would write a short communication for you on Agricultural matters. If you will allow me just to speak one word of my father, I will state that he was one of the soldiers of the revolution, and fought like a brave man to defend the American soil. Of myself, I can say that I have through the whole of my life, been a cultivator of the success of agriculture, I feel a lively interest in the success of skillful farming, and although I have not studied so much science as some of your correspondents, still I am willing to give some of my views, hoping that if I commit blunders you will have the goodness to correct them. In reading some of your papers, I observed that one of your correspondents told much about how an improved agriculture would strengthen republican liberty. What! said I to myself will agriculture strengthen the cause of liberty? I was always a great liberty man, I inherited this from my father. This put me to thinking and I pondered for a long time. At last however by much thinking I was induced to believe that in addition to all the other great advantages which the

community must reap from Agriculture it will be a great staff of liberty.

I have read considerable of what moral and political writers have said on the subject of virtue, I mean republican virtue, industry and independence, I mean by this, independence resulting from owning some share in that soil which my father defended: But I have not time nor talents sufficient to go through and exactly point out the why and the wherefore, that an improved Agriculture will be a great staff of Liberty. But let me notice the legislators, I mean particularly those who have boasted so much about being liberty men. Now will they march directly up to this measure and honor agriculture, and do what lies in their power to advance this great interest, or shall I be under the necessity of calling them hypocrites. I wish not to apply such a hard word to any living being, but in fact despise hypocrisy most heartily. I feel so much anxiety for the success of Agriculture that I would be willing to go to the seat of government and hold a private talk with each member of the H. C. Legislature, and employ all the skill I can command to convince them that it is right that the government should patronize the farming interest.

Rumford Jan. 1842.

THOMAS PHELPS.

Political Philosophy.

MR. HOLMES.—I noticed that one of your correspondents spoke of Agriculture being connected with political philosophy. I was staggered very much, I could easily discover the connection between natural philosophy and farming.—But what has the political philosopher to do with this subject? I pondered and pondered, but without effect, I was totally in the dark. At length however I thought that I could see a faint gleam of light, and when I have satisfactorily investigated this subject, I shall just take the liberty to give my views through your columns.

Rumford Jan. 1842.

A Vast Idea.

To the Editor of the Maine Farmer and Mechanic's Advocate.—DEAR SIR.—In your last number of the ninth vol. you make some remarks and among other things you say that you shall "continue your exertions with renewed zeal and energy." You refer to a writer in Europe, who says that the time will come when our Republic will be able to sustain in comfort seven hundred millions of people. What a vast idea for the contemplation of the politician, the political economist and the patriot! The foundation of all this mighty magnificence must first of all be built upon agriculture. Agricultural science and agricultural skill and industry will constitute the true foundation of the future greatness of our country; although there are other great interests that are inseparably interwoven with this noble branch of industry, which should neither be overlooked nor despised. That our country may be made capable of supporting an immense population is truth incontrovertible. And a question may arise, will the immense population which in coming time will cover our Republic be furnished with the means of real and substantial happiness, or will the increase of population ever become only the multiplication of wretchedness?

The future destiny of our country must depend much upon the measures of the government: I mean not only the general government, but the state governments. I have often made the assertion that agriculture properly conducted will constitute the foundation of our national safety and happiness. This is a subject which calls loudly for the attention of the politician. Now is the time to begin to build the foundation of the future well being of the American Republic.

If we cast our eyes upon modern Europe we shall behold enough to both delight and disgust the philanthropist. The rapid strides of European agricultural improvements which at first view might give us lively sensations of pleasure, serve rather to fill the mind with a more decided hatred of corrupt aristocracy. Every advance made in agricultural skill and in what would be termed the useful arts is calculated to increase the power and the happiness of a chosen few. In Europe the laboring poor are crushed to the earth, and the measures of government in most countries are only calculated for the benefit of the rich and the misnamed great. Will the bitter waters of corrupt aristocracy ever flow into the agriculture of our America: forbid it patriotism!!!

But I have often urged upon the attention of the government the importance and the necessity of pushing forward improvements in husbandry, and of rightly conducting the agriculture of our country. Whether these opinions which I have publicly given have ever arrested the attention of any of our Legislators I know not. Possibly I may have to encounter sneering critics, who will call my efforts no other but visionary schemes or the most consummate folly. Be that as it may, I shall do my duty and I shall continue to urge this subject upon the attention of the people and the government.

I am little inclined to be sarcastic upon our Legislators: it is becoming in a private citizen to respect the constituted authorities of the land; but where is the utility in employing duplicity, deceit or flattery? The three great requisites of a Legislature are wisdom, energy and patriotism—a politician may understand the beneficial effects which as improved husbandry may have upon the happiness and destiny of a country, but through a lack of energy or patriotism may not be inclined to adopt the necessary measures in order to produce the desired results. And again there is that monster prejudice, that often stands in the way of wise legislation. Jealousy is another great enemy that stands in the way—some no doubt think that if the Farmer rises they must sink—three grains of honesty would spare gentlemen all this trouble, I for one care not a farthing what may be one's occupation (if it be a useful employment) provided he be an honest and capable politician.

One word Mr. Editor in regard to myself and I will close. In your valedictory remarks you say

that "the most humble and retiring individual is a link in this chain of means which shall accomplish this object and cannot be spared." I am willing to contribute my mite in carrying forward the great and noble purposes which it is the object of your paper to accomplish. Most cheerfully do I accord with your sentiment near the close of your remarks ONWARD AND UPWARD OUR COUNTRY.

J. E. ROLFE.
Rumford Jan. 3, 1842.

A Tale.

MR. HOLMES:—I know a farmer who has on his farm an abundance of vegetable manure in a swamp not far from his barn or hog pen, but he has used very little of it because of the expense of drawing it into his barn yard and hog pen! He admits it is a very valuable manure mixed, &c. but O the expense of drawing, although it may be done in the winter when labor is not high—but he says I shall have to hire, and I have no money to pay. This is as I should expect of a man so much afraid of a little outlay, but his credit is such that any one who has money would be glad to rest it in his hands, if he was not frightened at a dollar outlay. But he says, I do not get in debt—the manure I know would enable me to raise treble what I now do—but it may be a dry season, or hail may destroy my crops, and then where shall I be? In debt head and ears if I hire money. I ask if this doctrine would not prevent his drawing out the manure from his hog pen or barn yard if carried out? Should he be sick in the spring, although his neighbor offered to do it and take pay in the profit that the manure would cause his farm to produce. Is it not the fact that our farmers fear too much, a little outlay? One who has most injured his interest by it.

Poultry again.

MR. HOLMES:—We have a widow woman in this town who has a house, a small barn, and a few acres of land near. She says she keeps a cow through the year, and a pig from spring to fall, and usually winters 15 hens. That she finds her 15 hens to be as much profit the year through as her cow—that in winter she keeps them on boiled potatoes and Indian meal, mixed, say half and half. When snow prevents their coming to the ground for gravel, she often pounds brick and puts it in their food, coal, lime, &c. That since it is found that they will not get over sharpened sticks or old shingles or bits of boards but two or three feet high they do no damage worth naming. I have named all the stock she keeps, and therefore she being a calculating woman, can well compare them. A. B.

The advantages of History.

A knowledge of History familiarizes us with other nations, people and times. Dionysius of Halicarnassus, a celebrated historian, says that "history is philosophy teaching by examples." We have in history examples to be imitated and examples to be shunned and lessons of valuable instruction on every page. We can avail ourselves of the experience of past ages; and this furnishes us with proofs innumerable, "by which we may verify all the precepts of morality and prudence." We see the people flourishing and happy under wise and virtuous rulers; and oppressed, suffering, and broken down under the sway of tyranny and reckless ambition. We find rewarded on the pages of history, the deeds of renown, the refinement and civilization of nations which have long since passed away; and in view of this, are led to ask—What of Egypt, once the only seat of learning and science? Now the residence of an ignorant and semi-barbarian people. Of Carthage, once the rival of Rome? Now known but in history. Of Judea, the Holy Land, the promised possession of the patriarchs—the residence of the prophets and chosen people of God—that land in which were performed the miracles, and in which were delivered the instructions of Him who was sent of God to be the founder and pattern of our Holy Religion;—in which He was persecuted, reviled, and finally crucified by the malice of the envious and self-righteous? Now in miserable bondage to the Moslem—fallen from her high estate in consequence of her transgressions—her people despised, and outcasts among all the nations of the earth.

What of Greece, once so celebrated for her literature, her heroes, Statesmen, Philosophers, and Orators—for her republican government, and for her works of art? Now among the least powerful and intelligent of the Kingdoms of Europe. What of Imperial Rome, once proud mistress of the world? Powerless—without a shadow of her former magnificence and grandeur; the residence of Bigotry, superstition, and Beggars.

On the other hand, we now find powerful nations, which have sprung up within, comparatively, a short period, bearing immense sway among the people of the earth. Look, for example, at Great Britain, which at the time of Julius Caesar, was inhabited by a few ignorant barbarians, who obtained their living principally by hunting and fishing; now mistress of half the world, and "whose possessions the sun never sets"—whose commerce whitens every sea—whose literature and science, and whose giant minds are an honor to our race. Look also to our own country—entirely unknown to the ancients. First, the Asylum of a few poor adventurers, who left their native land for the purpose of enjoying their honest opinions, and making for themselves a home in an unknown and savage wilderness—for awhile, struggling against savage foes amongst them, and then against the grievous oppression of those from whom they had a right to expect protection; but, finally emerging, we now behold them, grown to a mighty nation of millions of inhabitants—Christian and enlightened—under a form of government the most liberal in the whole earth, and whose possessions extend from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean.

A knowledge of History is of great value, and the study is one of much interest. From the story of the past—the virtues and the vices—the prosperity and the ruin, with which it acquaints us—we can make comparisons and draw valuable instruction; see the rocks and quicksands on which individuals and nations of other times have been wrecked, and, knowing them, we can avoid them ourselves.

History also exhibits to us the exceeding mutability of human affairs. Although nature herself is unchanged, and the purposes of the Almighty are ever sure—although virtue and intelligence always receive their reward, in every nation and age, and vice and ignorance their punishment—yet mutability seems to be written upon man and all his works. The only fame worth our ambition, or worth transmitting to posterity, is that of a virtuous and useful life. Who would not rather live and die in obscurity, than go down to coming generations, as the proud conqueror of the world, loaded with the crimes of an Alexander or a Caesar?

MECHANIC'S ADVOCATE.

An intelligent class can scarce ever be, as a class, vicious, never, as a class, indolent. * * * The new world of ideas; the new views of the relations of things; the astonishing secrets of the physical properties and mechanical powers disclosed to the well informed mind present attractions, which unless the character is deeply sunk, are sufficient to counterbalance the taste for frivolous or corrupt pleasures.—Everett.

Bob and Charley,

OR WORKSHOP DIALOGUES.

GEOMETRY FOR BOYS.—Dialogue 2.

Charley.—Come Bob, I'm in a fix again, let's have a little more of your black art from that old book that you study so closely in evenings. I was not down to Smoke and Guzzles last night you know.

Bob.—I know it, and I'm glad you wasn't, but what's the trouble with you now?

Charley.—Why Boss has carried off both the squares, and I want to strike a line from this line to that point that shall be exactly square with it, and I have nothing but this rule here to do it with, and you know what an old fuss Boss is, if any thing varies a hair's breadth.

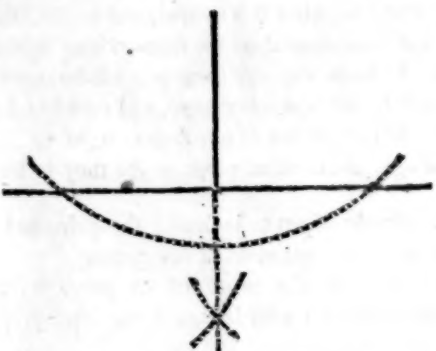
Bob.—And not to blame either. You know he prides himself on turning out the best work of any mechanic in town, and he will lose custom if the work isn't as it ought to be.

Charley.—Well what shall I do here? I can strike a straight line, but it may or may not be square with the other,—come show us a little Bob.

Bob.—Well, hand us those compasses, and a straight edge. Now put one foot upon the point, and extend the other beyond the line and make a sweep with it that shall cut the line in two points.

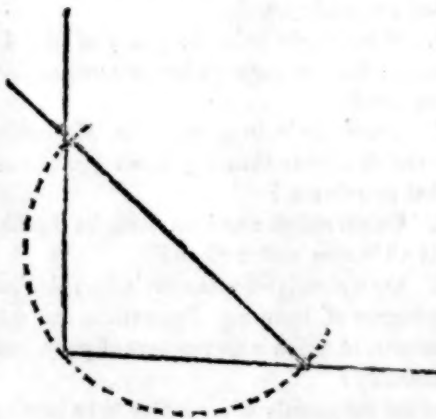
Charley.—Well Sir, There it is. What has a circle to do with a square?

Bob.—I'll show what it has to do with it. Now put one foot of the compasses into one of the points that crosses the line, and extend the other more than half way to the other, and make a sweep on the side of the line opposite the point. Now shift and put one foot in the other point and make another sweep crossing the first. Now lay your straight edge on the point where these two last circles cross each other, and on the first named point, on the other side, and draw a line and you have the square that you want.



Charley.—Well Bob that does it slick,—but what would you do if you wanted the line at the end instead of the middle? you couldn't strike the sweep on both sides of the point as you have in this case.

Bob.—I would do it in this manner. I would put one foot of the compasses on the end of the line and the other foot at some convenient distance above the line. Then with this last point as a centre, I would strike a part of a circle, touching the end of the line and cutting it across as it came up. Then lay a straight edge on the point where this sweep cuts the line, and upon the centre of the sweep, and draw a line that shall cut the upper part of the circle. From this last point draw a straight line to the end of the first line and you have the square which you want.



Charley.—I see Bob, every thing comes out just as you say. I must take a peep into that old Book myself.

Bob.—"Good on your head" Charley, here it is—peep at it as much as you please.

Charley.—(Reading in the book) "Elements of Geometry," what does that mean? Black art I suppose.

Bob.—No Charley, it is above the black art, because it is all truth, while the black art which you tell so much about is nothing but miserable juggling, a kind of slight of hand practised to gull the flat, and get their money. Geometry teaches how to make all the proper lines and curved line figures, and explains the properties of their magnitudes or sizes.

Charley.—Egad Bob, if it does all that its no fool of a study. I am thinking I'll quit loafing in evenings and see if I can't learn "a thing or two" as well as myself.

Bob.—That's right Charley, I should like to have you help me once in a while.

Charley.—Well I'll help you show me some about it this evening.

MR. HOLMES:—My attention has been called to the following queries, in volume 8th, page 163 of the Maine Farmer which I will endeavor to answer.

1. Which form for a pump below will blow the most with a given power, one that is four feet diameter, or one that is only one foot diameter?

2. Suppose you have a beam made fast at one end with the weight of a ton on the other, and you wish to raise the ton four feet up and down with a crank, would you put a long crank at the end near the weight, or a short crank toward the fixed end? and which would require the most power?

ANSWER TO 2d QUESTION.

1st. Suppose the beam is 16 feet long—the power applied 4 feet from fixed end by means of sweep and crank, in which case the crank must be 6 inches long to give the required motion to the weight. Suppose then for the sake of simplicity that the moving power is applied directly to the crank wrist. Then 16 feet multiplied by one ton makes 16, and that divided by 4 feet makes 4 tons weight to the point of application. Thus $16 \times 1 = 4$.

2d. Suppose the power applied directly to the given weight by means of sweep and crank as before. In this case the crank will be 24 inches long

Now as the number of revolutions in the two cases must be equal, it follows that the moving power in the two cases may be applied to equal distances from neck of crank, or axis of wheel.

Then we have the weight of one ton applied to the end of the crank, or 24 inches from the axis, and the moving power 6 inches from the same axis, hence proceeding as before we have 24 inches multiplied by 1 ton makes 24 and this divided by 6 makes 4 tons, thus $24 \times 1 = 4$ Tons.

It must be observed however that this would hold true only where the length of sweeps are proportional to distance of application from the fixed end of the beam. All losses on account of weight of beam and action of power at different angles are omitted.

A. W.
Answer to the first question hereafter.

Origin of some of the Arts.

The invention of globes and maps ascribed by historians to Anaximander of Miletus in Asia Minor, who flourished about 550 years B. C. By the assistance of these, in connection with his own correct observations, he endeavored to prove, from principles of analogy and from the invariable laws of motion, the sphericity, rotation, and revolution of the Earth; and its similarity to the other planets of the solar system. Unfortunately, the ignorance and bigoted incredulity of that age, as well as many succeeding ages, prevented, for two thousand years, the introduction of the correct doctrine of the spheres. The ideas he entertained of the solar system, as expressed by the construction of his globes, were undoubtedly of service to succeeding philosophers, who, improving upon the notions of their predecessors, furnished the great Sir Isaac Newton with such data as enabled him, at the eighteenth century, to demonstrate the solar system upon its true principles.

The advantages derived from globes and maps in the study of astronomy, geography, and navigation are very great. Adam's globes—manufactured in London—were executed in the most correct and elegant manner. The same may with truth be said of Arrowsmith's maps—London. American artists however are not far behind in the production of the latter. The maps of several of the states of America, taken from actual survey by order of their respective governments, are really an honor to the country.

Every school and Academy ought to be furnished with a good set of maps at least, and with a set of globes when the institution is of sufficient importance. With their assistance, under the care of an intelligent master, scholars would acquire more correct knowledge of geography in one month, than they could in a year's study without them.

To Pythagoras, one of the most wise and learned of the Grecians, who flourished about 500 years B. C. the world is indebted for the demonstration of the 47th proposition in Euclid's elements of geometry, viz. that the sums of the squares of the two legs of a right angled triangle are equal to the square of the base or longest line. The importance of this correct maxim in surveying, navigation, trigonometry, measurement of heights and distances, and in astronomical calculations, is very great. The architect and carpenter find much assistance from a knowledge of this rule as applied in their occupations. Besides this discovery, Pythagoras produced many more both in natural philosophy, and in the mechanic and liberal arts. His system of the universe corresponds exactly with that demonstrated by the great Sir Isaac Newton.

As his learning and genius produced the most astonishing effects among his countrymen, in prompting the idle and vicious to habits of industry and morality; and as the Greeks thereby, as well as the neighbouring nations, became famous for their learning and skill in the mechanic arts, it is presumed, a short digression to give an historical sketch of this great man, whom the ancients justly styled the "father of human wisdom," will not be unacceptable.

Pythagoras first made himself known in Greece at the Olympic Games, where in his eighteenth year he obtained the prize. Here he was universally admired for the elegance and dignity of his person, and for the brilliancy and powers of his mind.—From Olympia he retired into the east. In Egypt and Caldea he gained the confidence of the priests, and learned of them the artful policy, and symbolic writings, by which they governed the princes as well as the people. Having spent many years in gathering all the information which could be collected from antique tradition, he returned to Samos, his native island. Here the tyranny of Polycrates disgusted the philosopher, who was a great advocate for national independence, and though the favorite of the tyrant, he left the island, and a second time attended the Olympic Games. His fame was too well known to escape notice. In that assembly he was saluted by the appellation of the "wise man."

This he refused, and declared himself satisfied with that of the "philosopher" or "friend of wisdom." In explanation of this new and modest appellation he was contented to have given him, he observed: "That, to the Olympic games, some were attracted by the desire of obtaining crowns and honors; others came to expose their different commodities to sale; while curiosity, and the desire of contemplating whatever deserves notice in that celebrated assembly, drew a third class.—Thus on the more extensive theatre of the world, while many struggle for the glory of a name, and many pant for the advantages of fortune, a few, and indeed but a few, who are neither desirous of money, nor ambitious of fame, are sufficiently gratified to be spectators of the hurry, the wonder, and magnificence of the scene."

From Olympia he retired to Magna Græcia, where he fixed his habitation, in the 40th year of his age. Here he founded a sect in moral philosophy, denominated the *Italiæ*; and he soon saw himself surrounded by a great number of pupils, whom the fame of his mental, as well as personal accomplishments, had attracted. His skill in medicine, and music, his knowledge in mechanics, mathematics, and natural philosophy gained him friends and admirers.

The most debauched and effeminate were pleased with the eloquence and genius of the philosopher, who boldly upbraided them for their vices, and called them to more virtuous and manly pursuits. He maintained that every occupation, whether scientific, mechanical, commercial, or agricultural, by which the comforts and conveniences of human life

were equally promoted, was in itself praiseworthy and honourable. That of the several branches of business, there was none, that afforded such opportunities for the exercise and disclosure of the genius and wisdom of the human mind, as mechanics. In these its creative and inventive powers are frequently displayed, to the admiration of the world, and to the great advantage of mankind. Success in war, and prosperity in peace depend on the artificial powers produced by mechanics. A nation is independent only in proportion to their ability of producing and manufacturing those articles, which either their necessity or convenience may require.

Industry, he considered, to be the mother of many virtues, but idleness, the siren-patroness of crimes and wretchedness. The greatest misfortune, he believed, that could befall a man of understanding, would be the loss of his reputation for honesty, veracity, and integrity. Next to these, punctuality in the performance of promises, was in his estimation, an important virtue, the strict observance of which frequently gained a man both fortune and friends. Indeed, without these virtues, man was but an enemy to his race, and disgraced an existence, which was given him to honor and to render happy in this world, in order that he may enjoy greater happiness in the next among the immortal gods.

These animated sentiments delivered by a man, whose aspect was fascinating and venerable, whose voice was harmonious, whose eloquence was considered divine, added to the reputation he had acquired by his distant travels, and his being crowned at the Olympic games, produced the most astonishing effects in the morals and customs of the people. The young soon left the pursuits of pleasure and intemperance, became industrious, and paid that obedience to their parents, which the precepts of Pythagoras enjoined. The old were directed, no longer to spend their time in amassing money, or in canvassing for the fleeting honors of public offices, but to improve their understandings, and to seek that peace and comfort of mind, which frugality, benevolence, and philanthropy alone can produce.

The precepts he delivered were enforced by his own examples. His artful measures rendered him an object not only of reverence, but of imitation. Those, who before thought any occupation, but idleness, beneath them, now felt a pride in imitating the great philosopher in various mechanical as well as other occupations; and declared that with industry they found time to pass on agreeable, and that they enjoyed a happiness they never knew before.

The great influence the philosopher possessed in his school was soon transferred to the world. His pupils divided with him the approbation and applause of his country. In a short time the rulers, legislators, and principal men of all the cities of Greece, Sicily, and Italy boasted in being the disciples of Pythagoras; and of having learned of him the great art of enjoying life rationally and of rendering their country happy.

In the great Universe he perceived regularity, correspondence, beauty, proportion, uniformity, and harmony as intentionally produced by the Creator. In his doctrines of morality, he discovered propensities in the human mind, which were common to the brute creation; but besides these, and the passions of ingratitude, avarice, and ambition, he perceived the nobler seeds of virtue; and supported, that the most ampie and perfect happiness was to be found in the enjoyment of intellectual and moral pleasures.

His instructions to governments and to those concerned in the administration of the laws, were "never to suffer ingenuity and abilities to moulder away in obscurity," because these, when properly called forth, constituted the power, glory, and honour of the state. From doctrines like these, delivered by a philosopher, who was deified by his countrymen, nothing but the most salutary consequences could arise. The truth of his maxims, respecting manufactures and commerce, has been amply illustrated by the immense wealth acquired by several nations of Europe, in consequence of their paying proper attention to them; and thereby creating a spirit of national industry, which increases with its wealth.

Apollonius of Pamphylia in Asia Minor, who flourished about 250 years B. C. is admitted by historians to be the inventor of Conic Sections. These are mathematical figures, by whose known and corresponding properties, geometrical propositions are demonstrated, and the laws of motion rendered intelligible and certain. Within the last century, their use has been rendered conspicuous by several eminent mathematicians of Europe, particularly by Sir Isaac Newton, in his correct calculations of the revolution, of the planets belonging to the solar system.

These figures are five in number, viz. the triangle, the circle, the ellipse, the parabola, and the hyperbola; the three latter are purely conic sections; the two former, though belonging to conic sections, may be produced as correctly without the assistance of a cone.

The use of the triangle and circle in surveying, navigation, gunnery &c., is well known. The ellipse and hyperbola, in connection with the other figures, contain the data or known principles, by which the periods of the planets are calculated with accuracy, as they are known to be governed by those laws of motion, as demonstrated by the properties of these figures. The parabola is a figure upon which the science of gunnery is founded. The random or range of a ball or shell of a given weight thrown with a given quantity of powder, will be in proportion to the elevation of the piece. The proper elevation of a mortar is at 45 degrees for throwing shells at the greatest distance and with the greatest accuracy. If the height to which the shell rises is exactly half the distance, at which the shell is to be thrown, the engineer is then sure of hitting his mark. In this art practice must always be joined with theory, in order to produce a skillful gunner or engineer. (To be continued.)

Mechanics.

There is no portion of our community having stronger claims upon the sympathy or kind feelings of the other, than the mechanics; and there is none in whose success the whole country has a more immediate interest. Our soil produces the substantial necessities of life, and the commercial balances that so frequently occur and throw every thing into disorder and confusion, producing pecuniary embarrassment and ruin throughout the land, are created, not by our want of raw productions, but by the importation of manufactured articles from abroad—by the employment we

give the foreign artisan in preference to our own. To check these importations and reduce these balances is an object of first importance, not only to the real independence of the country, but to the security of property and the accumulations of industry; and upon our own mechanics we must mainly depend for effecting these important objects. And yet how little after all, is their importance to the country considered. Politicians may clamor about the cause of our revolutions and embarrassments—economists may theorise about the beauties of free trade and all that sort of thing—yet after all, it is because our artisans or mechanics are not yet able to compete, in all the branches of the mechanic arts, with the foreign manufacture, that these balances occur and revolutions ensue. And, unfortunately, the effects of these revolutions fall with peculiar severity upon almost the only class who do not contribute to produce them—upon our mechanics and artisans themselves. While they are straining their nerves to supply as large a portion as possible of the domestic demand for manufactured articles, the professional classes, the merchants, and the considerable extent the farmers, are flooding the country with articles produced by foreign labor.

The farmers have now their papers, devoted to their particular interests, instructing them not only in every thing that pertains to their vocation, but calculated to elevate them in the scale of political influence. These papers are beginning to discern the propriety of the cultivators of the soil taking the political ground that their numbers and the importance of their calling justifies and requires: and we wish that the mechanics of the country were as well provided with the means of disseminating information and reading of peculiar importance to them, and calculate to give them the share of importance and influence in the country that they deserve.

It seems to us wrong, that in this country of at least theoretical equality, the ingenious fabricator of an article of mechanism should be placed in the social or political scale below the merchant, the mere retailer of his wares. Yet so it is: the mere trafficker, who is not required to bring an ingenuity or practical skill in aid of his business, except so far as may be necessary to drive a good bargain, generally stands a little ahead of the ingenious, talented, thinking, hard working mechanic, who has spent years of application, study and toil, to perfect himself in his avocation.

We have often heard it said, and by mechanics themselves, that it was their own fault that things were so; that they had opportunities for mental culture that were not improved; and that by diligent application of their leisure hours to the improvement of their minds, instead of the pursuit of pleasure, they would be able to stand along side of the more favored classes. This however, is only true to a small extent. It is not generally their fault that they maintain the unimportant station in society that they do. Many, perhaps most of them, owe their station—their trade, to early misfortune. How few of them can look back upon the days of their boyhood, and remember the joys of a paternal home? How few of them had parents to direct their youthful progress to the station it is their lot to fill in life? The great proportion of them were orphan boys, who were apprenticed rather for the purpose of securing their subsistence during boyhood, than with a view to the pursuit they were to follow in after life—generally with that imperfect education that is procured by a few months attendance upon a common school, or such as is snatched when evenings are too short for shop work, they commence the struggle of life under disadvantages, and what is worse, under a consciousness of their existence. Without capital, and too often without friends, their whole physical power is taxed to prevent an early prostration of the hopes of prosperity they had formed; and the few who succeeded are indebted to good fortune, and constant unremitting industry, for their success.

True, they are leisure hours; but it is hardly the fault of a man whose hours of labor are so many as the mechanic's must necessarily be, that the few hours of leisure are spent in relaxation, rather than mental labor. Some social intercourse is necessary for any man; and it is hardly his fault that he indulges in it, instead of the closest labor of endeavoring, without instruction, to learn what the more favored have learned in their youth.

To the mechanics themselves, perhaps, it may be well enough to hold the language that it is their own fault that they sustain no higher position in society, that they simulate them to the exertion necessary to change it; but when they are viewed as they should be, as a portion of the community upon whom so much depends in order to render us as a nation a little more independent of foreign influences, the mechanic will cease to be looked upon as an unimportant member of society, or reproached for the humble station he occupies.

We have been led to some reflections upon this subject, learning something of an attempt now making by the mechanics of Rochester to elevate their social, and perhaps political condition, by an association that we are inclined to think is placed upon about the right foundation. Rochester is a manufacturing city. Its principle importance (and it has become a city of no small importance) is derived from its mechanical and manufacturing establishments. Within a year or two, the mechanics and working men have organized an association having for its object the mental culture of themselves and their apprentices. They have an extensive hall, with its speaker's or President's chair, for their meetings, where questions are debated and discussed with all the order and regularity of parliamentary form; and we have frequently heard more bungling attempts at oratory in our legislative halls and our courts of justice, made by professional men, than we heard one evening among the tailors, the cordwainers, and other mechanics of Rochester.

The rules of the association exclude all but mechanics and working men. To some this may seem a narrow and proscriptive policy; but after all, it is the secret of their success. Their attempts at debate and public speaking are not brought into some comparison with the efforts of those who have had superior advantages; and if they stumble, they stumble among equals and friends who will not exult in their fall. The reasoning faculties by this kind of training, are brought into exercise; confidence in their own strength is acquired; and they are, by this kind of mimic legislation, fitting themselves for the discharge of the duties that may devolve upon them as citizens.

But it is not solely with a view to their per-

sonal advantage; that the mechanics of Rochester have united in establishing this most excellent institution: they have a regard for the responsibilities that devolve upon them by their standing, (in place of a parent?) to their apprentices—who have access to the library. A taste for reading and a thirst for information is thus stimulated, and many are the hours that might otherwise be spent in idleness, or dangerous diversion and amusement, that are spent in the acquisition of knowledge that will in after life be useful to themselves and their country.

The whole plan, arrangement and operation of this institution are excellent. We rejoice in its existence, and wish that every town in the State, containing twenty mechanics, had a similar one. We have no jealousy or fears of what some may call the proscriptive policy or excluding professional or mercantile men: its object is to benefit themselves, and those immediately under their charge; but by its effects and consequences the whole country will be greatly benefited.—Seneca Falls Memorial.

Process of Extracting the Cube Root.

MR. EDITOR:—I wish to offer for publication in your paper, a process for extracting the cube root, which is not generally, if at all, known in New England. Any one, who is acquainted with the rules, now in common use, will at once, see the value of this method, when he is shown that the following example exhibits the whole operation.

164350	409.195	433.5477
5	25	125
10	75	39375
154	8116	32404
158	8748	695469
1627	88619	620323
1634	897627	62146195
16417	89877619	62143333
16424	8990287	6302862433
164317	900048919	6302862433

The above sum is taken from Leonard's Arithmetic, and he who can extract the root of it by the common method in twenty minutes, can do it by the above method in three.

I will proceed to illustrate the above process, step by step.

The number whose root is to be extracted, is pointed off in the usual manner, and the first figure of the root (5) is put at the head of the first column, its square (25) at the head of the second column, and its cube (125) under the first period, from which it is subtracted, and the second period annexed to the remainder. The double and triple of 5 are placed underneath that figure in the first column. The product of 10 by 5 is added to 25 in the second column, and the sum 75 put underneath. I then inquire how often 75 is contained in 39375, rejecting the last two figures; the quotient 4 is the second figure of the root. The second figure of the root is annexed to 15 in the first column, making the number 154. Then I multiply 154 by 4, and place the product in the second column, observing to advance it two places to the right of 75, and add the 75 to the rest of the product, making 8116, which I multiply by 4, and put the product 32404 under the remainder, and subtract it therefrom, and to the remainder annex the third period. I then return to the first column, double and triple the unit figure of 154, making the numbers 158 and 1627. I multiply 158 by 4, the last figure obtained in the root, and add the product to 8116 in the second column, producing 8748, which is placed underneath 8116 in the second column.

I then inquire how often 8748 is contained in 695469, and the quotient 7, the third figure of the root, which is annexed to 1627 in the first column, making the number 1627. I then multiply 1627 by 7, which is placed in the second column, and subtracted therefrom, and to the remainder annex the fourth period, and the product placed in the second column, being advanced two places to the right of units in the second column, and the number 8748 added to the rest of the product, producing 88619, which is multiplied by 7, producing 620323, which is placed underneath 88619, and subtracted therefrom, and to the remainder annex the fifth period, and the product placed in the second column, being advanced two places to the right of units in the second column, and the number 897627 added to the rest of the product, making the number 89877619, which is multiplied by 7, and the product 62943333, placed under the third resolved, and subtracted, and to the remainder the fifth period is annexed. I then return to the first column, double and triple the unit figure of the number 16417, the last figure obtained in the root, and the product placed in the second column, being advanced as before, two places to the right of the units of the number 897627, which number is added to the rest of the product, making the number 8990287, which is multiplied by 7, and the product 62943333, placed under the third resolved, and subtracted, and to the remainder the fifth period is annexed. I then return to the first column, double and triple the unit figure of the number 164317, the last figure obtained in the root, and the product placed in the second column, being advanced as before, two places to the right of the units of the number 8990287, which number is added to the rest of the product, producing the number 900048919, which is multiplied by 7, and produces 6302862433.

This method of extracting the cube root, was discovered by Mr. Peter Nicholson, who is said to be the author of an excellent course of arithmetic, but I have never yet seen it. I deem this process of extracting the cube root of vast importance to all teachers, knowing, as I do by experience, that any pupil sufficiently advanced to engage in the roots at all, may be taught to extract the third root in three minutes, and sometimes I have taught it in less time. What renders this method still more useful and interesting, is, that it is applicable to all roots, from the second to the thirtieth, or to the thirteen thousand root, &c.

If what I have said should meet the approbation of teachers and scholars, I will, hereafter, give examples in the higher roots.

It will be seen that I have only shown the process by which the root is obtained, leaving all the wherefores to be illustrated in their appropriate manner, which I will endeavor to do satisfactorily to all who may be disposed to give me a call.

A. B. CONVERSE.
Bangor, Jan. 14.

Carbolin, a name given to a new kind of fuel recently invented by a Russian, M. Wesschinski, the manufacture of which is thus described in the Russian Industrial.—It is composed of coal, and any other combustible, pounded as fine as possible, and mixed with a sufficient quantity of animal or vegetable oil. This mixture is subjected to a strong pressure, in order to produce pieces as hard and solid as stone. From an equal weight this carbolin yields five times more heat than common coal, and of the best quality. The flame which it produces is very bright, and burns for a long time. This property will render it extremely valuable in foundries, in the manufacture of arms and in glass works, &c. In short, it will be useful for all purposes where it is important to heat the furnace, but not continuous fire. It appears from the results of its use on the steamship *Sirius*, that the paddle-wheel which made twelve revolutions in a minute with the best coal, made nineteen in a minute when carbolin was used. This new combustible appears then to be very useful, and deserves that further experiments should be made in order to ascertain the accuracy of the results, which are stated to have been arrived at in the experiments already made.—American Repository.

100

trial of Colt, in New York, for the murder of Adams, resulted in his conviction. The Jury sat ten hours.

RIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, Jan. 24, 1842. (Reported for the Boston Daily Advertiser and Patriot.)

Cattle.—*Best Cattle.*—We quote to correspond last week, viz:—First quality \$5 50 a \$5 75; second quality \$4 75 a \$5 25; third quality \$3 50 a \$5 50.

Wool.—*Sales.*—last; two lots were sold by five bids, one at 3, and one at 4, both well fed; lots sold from 1 50 to 4 50.

Swine.—*Prices.*—The market sold, one for less and one for a fraction more than last week, more than half Barre. —Very few were sold at retail.

Buckfield High Scho. and Lyceum.

Rev. CYRIL PEARL, Principal.

THE Spring term of this institution is to commence on Monday, February 25, and continue eleven weeks. The Directors believe that the success of the school the last year furnishes the best assurance that its duties are worthy of a liberal patronage. The annual course of instruction is to be pursued, under the direction of the same principal, aided by competent assistants in the male and female departments. In consequence of the small number of scholars, particular attention will be given to the female department, to the instruction of those who pursue hitherto preparatory to entering college. Tuition as heretofore \$3 to \$4 per term, payable in advance. For board from 24 to 28 cents per week, 45 cents per week. Consequent on the second Monday of March, next, a class of 25 to \$1 50 cts per week.

OF Several gentlemen can be accommodated with board in the family of the Principal.

Per order of the Directors.
Buckfield, Feb. 1, 1842. 3w5

IN ENNEBEC, ss. At a Court of Probate holden at Augusta within and for the County of Kennebec, on the last Monday of January, A. D. 1842.

JOHN SHAW, guardian of GEORGE A. HAYWARD of Winthrop, in said County, minor, having submitted his account of said guardianship of said minor for allowance:

Ordered, That the said guardian give notice to all persons interested, by causing a copy of this order to be published three weeks successively in the Maine Farmer, printed at Winthrop, that they may appear at Probate Court to be holden at Augusta in said County on the second Monday of March next, to show cause why the same should not be allowed.

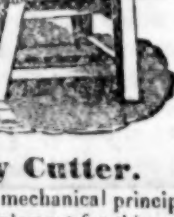
A true copy,
Attest: F. DAVIS, Jr. Register. W. EMMONS, Judge.

Sheriff's Sale.

IN ENNEBEC ss.—January 24, 1842.—Taken on Execution and will be sold at public auction, to the best bidder on Saturday the fifth day of March at ten of the clock in the forenoon at the public sale in Winthrop kept by Sherburne Morrill, and called the Winthrop House, all the right title and interest which Nathaniel P. Allen now has, or had at the time of the service of the original writ, to a deed of conveyance of the dwelling House and land whereon said sales now lives, situated in Greens in the County of Kennebec, by virtue of any bond or contract which said sales held for a conveyance of the same to him upon terms and conditions in said bond or contract mentioned. Terms made as follows:—

E. W. KELLY, Deputy Sheriff.

Green's Celebrated Straw and Hay Cutter.



Hay Cutter.

OPERATING on a mechanical principle not before applied to any implement for this purpose. The cost of the advantages are—

1st. The strength of a half grown boy is sufficient cut with ease two bushels a minute, which is as fast as the machine can be conveniently used.

2d. The knives, owing to the nature of the machine in which they cut, do not require sharpening so often as those of any other Straw Cutter.

3d. The machine is simple in its construction, made of put together strongly. It is therefore not so liable to get out of order as the complicated machines in general use.

This Machine is in extensive use and is highly approved of. It is warranted to give the best satisfaction to those who use it.

Also, Boynton's Straw Cutter. This machine when operated by Horse or Steam power, will cut from six to six bushels per minute. Price \$200, 00.

For Sale by N. P. H. WILLIS, No. 45, North Market Street, Boston.

the Waterville Iron Manufacturing Co's Cast Iron Ploeghs.

HAVING improved our facilities for making our CAST IRON PLOEGHS we are enabled to offer them manufactured in a superior style, and from the best materials at reduced prices. These Ploeghs have been long and extensively used in Maine, Vermont and New Hampshire, and are universally acknowledged to be the strongest and most durable Ploeghs in use. Every part of the wood works being the best of western White Oak.

We have no inducement to use any but the best of labor, as our contract with the person who supplies to pay for note but the best, leaving us to be the judges of quality. We thus position us in our obligation to the timber of our ploeghs, from the fact that there are many kinds of Ploeghs for sale made of oak. We are aware that there is an objection sometimes made against buying Cast Iron Ploeghs, on the fact that the points or shares are soon "sawn off," and much trouble is often incurred in using them. In the Ploeghs offered for sale are manufactured at the State, and the farmer is obliged to lay by his plough for the want of a share, or some other part of iron work. This objection we have obviated, first, by keeping a general assortment of Shares and other parts with each Agent where the Ploeghs are kept for sale. Second, by hardening and tempering the Shares and other irons in such a manner as will render their price or price as durable as any other kind. These Ploeghs are warranted to be of sufficient strength to perform the work for which they were intended, and any failure by fault usage will be promptly made good.

Thousands of testimonials from practical farmers, and agricultural committees, where these Ploeghs have obtained premiums could be here inserted relative to the superiority of form, material and workmanship, but these Ploeghs are too well known to render them necessary.

Any one unacquainted with them are referred to those who have used them. These Ploeghs are for sale by the following Agents, and at the Factory at Waterville, Me. T. Crocker, Paris Hill; R. Hutchinson, S. Barford; A. Coudelle, Lincoln; Long & Loring, Waterville; John Nash, Lewiston; Isaac Tyler, Veld; Wm. Dickey, Strong; S. Gould Jr. New Portland; C. Thompson, N. Barford; O. Bolster, Lunenburg point; Smith & Steward, Anson; C. Jewett, Athens; W. G. Clark, Bangorville; C. W. Piper, Levant; S. Webb & Co. Solon; J. Vickrey, Parkman; S. A. Todd, Ripley; J. Harvey, Bangorville; W. K. Lancy, Pittsfield; S. Chambers, Albion; H. Sawyer, Bates; Selden, Norridgewood; J. G. Madison; J. Kidder & Arnold, E. Madison; W. Lovejoy, Sidney; J. C. Cochran, East Corinth; H. W. Fairbanks, Farmington; S. Morrill, Dixfield; C. H. Strickland, Wilton; J. C. Covel, Wilton Falls; Crosby & Hoyt, Phillips; S. Parker, Bloomfield; I. Bang, Mt. Vernon; J. D. Welch, Monson; C. F. Kimball, Dover; E. G. Allen, Dexter; F. V. Bartlett, Harmony; Gould & Ross, Stetson; A. Moore, St. Albans; E. Frye, Detroit Falls; M. Mathews, Clinton; Dingley & Whitcomb, Unity; S. & L. Barrett, Concord; O. Bailey, Meriden; J. & P. Prescott, New Sharon; F. A. Bateman & Co. Dixmont; F. Shaw, China; I. Crocker, Sumner; J. Whitney, Plymouth; John Blake, Turner.

CALVIN MORRILL, Agent,
August 26, 1841. 35, if.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Lady's Choice.

By Mrs. Emma C. Embury.

"In terms of choice I am not solely led
By nice direction of a maiden's eye."

Merchant of Venice.

"I want to ask you a question, Mildred, but I am afraid you will deem it an impertinent one."

"Ask me what you please, dear Emily, and be assured that you shall receive a frank reply; we have known and loved each other too long to doubt that affection and not mere idle curiosity prompts our mutual inquiries respecting each other's welfare during our separation."

"When I bade farewell to my native land, Mildred, I left you surrounded by a wide circle of admirers; you were beautiful and rich, these gifts alone would have won you many a suitor, but you were also possessed of the noblest qualities of heart, and mind were as worthy to be loved as to be admired. How has it happened then that from among the many who sought your hand, you selected one so—so—"

"I understand you, Emily,—so misshapen and ugly, you would say: it is precisely because I possessed a little more heart and soul than usually belongs to a fashionable belle."

"What do you mean, Mildred? when I parted from you I thought you were more than half in love with the handsome Frank Harcourt."

"And you return to find me married to his crooked cousin."

"I did not know Mr. Heyward was related to your quondam admirer."

"Ah, I see I must tell the whole story; 'wooden' married an 'a' is not enough for you; I must relate all the particulars which led to such an apparently whimsical choice."

"You remember me doubtless as the *enfant gâté* of society; the spoiled child of doting parents, and the flattered votary of fashion. My web of life, unbroken by a single sombre thread, seemed woven only of rose-color and gold. My mirror taught me that the world spoke truth, when it assigned to me the brightest of all womanly gifts: experience showed me my superiority in mind over the well-dressed dolls of society; and the earnestness of my affection for the friends of my youth, convinced me that many stronger and deeper emotions still lay latent within my heart. Yet with all these gifts, Emily, I narrowly escaped the fate of a fashionable flirt. I could not complain, like Voltaire, that 'the world was stilling me with roses,' but I might have truly said, that the incense offered at the shrine of my vanity was fast defacing, with its fragrant smoke, the fine gold that adorned the idol. Selfishness is a weed which flourishes far more luxuriantly beneath the sunshine of prosperity than under the weeping skies of adversity; for, while sorrow imparts a fellow-feeling with all who suffer happiness too often engenders habits of indulgence, utterly incompatible with sympathy and disinterestedness. Wherever I turned I was met by pleasant looks and honeyed words, everybody seemed to consider me with favor, and I was in great danger of believing that the world was all sincerity and Miss Mildred all perfection. The idea that I shone in the reflected glitter of my father's gold never occurred to me. Too much accustomed to the applanche of wealth to bestow a thought upon them; entirely ignorant of the want and consequently of the value of money, I could not suppose that other people prized what to me was a matter of such perfect indifference, or that the weight of my purse gave me any undue preponderance in the scale of society. Proud, haughty and self-willed as I have been, yet my conscience acquits me of ever having valued myself upon the adventitious advantages of wealth. Had I been born in a hovel I still should have been proud,—proud because I understand and appreciated the dignity of human nature,—but I should have despised myself, for from the slippery eminence of fortune, I could have looked with contempt upon my fellow beings."

"But I was spoiled, Emily, completely spoiled. There was so much temptation around me,—so much opportunity for exaction and despotism that my moral strength was not sufficient to resist the impulses of wrong. With my head full of romantic whims, and my heart thrilling with vague dreams of devoted love and life-long constancy; a brain teeming with images of paladin and troubadour, and a bosom throbbing with longings for the untasted joy of reciprocal affection,—I yet condescended to play the part of a consummate coquette. But, no; if by coquetry be meant a deliberate system of machinations to entrap hearts which become worthless as soon gained, then I never was a coquette, but I certainly must plead guilty to the charge of thoughtless, aimless, mischievous flirtation. If the Court of Love still existed,—that court, which, as you know, was instituted in the later days of chivalry, and composed of an equal number of knights and dames, whose duty it was to try all criminals accused of offences against the laws of Love; if such a tribunal still existed, I think it might render a verdict of *guilty* against a coquette, while only *acquittal* could be laid to the charge of the *flirt*. The result of both cases is equally fatal, but the latter crime is less degrading because it involves no *malice prepense*. Do not misunderstand me, Emily, I do not mean to exculpate the lesser crime, for if the one deserves capital punishment the other certainly merits imprisonment for life, and, next to the slanderer, I look upon the coquette and habitual flirt as the most dangerous characters in society. Yet I believe that many a woman is imperceptibly led to the very verge of flirtation by a natural and even praiseworthy desire to please. The fear of giving pain when we suspect we possess the power, often gives softness to a woman's voice and sweetness to her manner, which, to the heart of a lover, may bear a gentler interpretation. Among the chief of our minor duties may be ranked that of making ourselves agreeable; and who does not know the difficulty of walking between two lines without crossing either? You think I am saying all this in exculpation of my past folly, and perhaps you are right."

"I was just nineteen, and in the full enjoyment of my triumphs in society, when I officiated as your bridesmaid. I must confess, Emily, that the marriage of such a pretty, delicate creature, as you then were, with a man full twice your age, in whose dark

whiskers glinted more than one silver thread, and on whom time had already bestowed a most visible crown, seemed to me one of the marvels of affection for which I could not then account."

"Now you are taking your revenge, Mildred, for my saucy questions respecting your husband; but if you can give as good a reason for your choice as I found for mine, I shall be perfectly satisfied."

"Let me gratify my morbid malice, lady fair; time has shown some little consideration for you in this matter, for, while he has left no deeper impression on your husband's brow, he has expanded the slender girl into the blooming, matronly-looking woman. You are now well matched, Emily, and your husband is one of the handsomest men of his age."

The arch look of the speaker interpreted the equivocally-worded compliment, and, with a joyous laugh, Miss Heyward resumed: "It was about the time of your marriage, and shortly before your departure for Europe, that I became acquainted with Frank Harcourt. You must remember his exceeding beauty. The first time I beheld him, Byron's exquisite description of the Apollo Belvidere rose to my lips:

"In this delicate form,—a dream of Love
Sharpened by some solitary nymph, whose heart
Longed for a deathless lover from above
And maddened in that vision, is exult
And that idle beauty ever blessed
The mind with in its most unearthly mood."

His admirable symmetry of form, and a face of such perfect contour, such exquisite regularity of feature, that its semblance in marble might have been valued as a relic of Grecian ideal beauty, were alone sufficient to attract the admiration of such a lover of the beautiful as I always have been; but the charm of perfect coloring, the effect of light and shade was not wanting in this finished picture.—His full dark eye sparkled beneath a snow-white forehead,—his cheek was bronzed by exposure and yet bright with health,—his lips were crimson and velvet-like as the pomegranate flower,—his teeth white as the ocean pearl,—his raven curls fell in those rich slight tendrils so rarely seen except on the hand of infancy,—while the soft and delicate shadowing in his lip and chin resembled rather the silken texture of a lady's eyebrow, than the wiry and matted masses of hair usually cherished under the name of whiskers and mustache."

"You are quite impassioned in your description, Mildred; what would your husband say if he were to hear you?"

"He would agree with me in thinking that Frank Harcourt is the most beautiful specimen of humanity that ever presented itself to my admiring eyes."

"He has less jealousy than in his nature than most of his sex."

"A man has little cause to be jealous of a rival he has so utterly discomfited."

"Harcourt soon professed himself my admirer and need I say that his attentions were by no means displeasing to me. The buzz of admiration which met my ear whenever he appeared,—the delight with which ladies accepted his slightest civilities,—the maneuvers constantly practised to secure his society, all tended to render me vain of his homage. Had he been merely a beautiful statue,—a rich but empty casket, I should soon have become weary of my conquest. But Harcourt possessed a mind rather above mediocrity, fine taste, elegant manners, and what was especially useful to him, great skill in deciphering character and consummate tact in adapting himself to its various peculiarities. When those beautiful lips parted only to utter the language of high-toned sentiment, or to breathe the impassioned words of Byron and Moore,—when those bright eyes glistened with suppressed tears at the voice of melancholy music, or sparkled with merry delight at the tones of gaiety; when that fine person swayed itself with inimitable grace to the movements of the mazy dance, or bent its towering altitude with gentle dignity over the slight form of some delicate girl, it is not strange, that, even to my eyes, he should seem all that was noble and majestic in mind as well as person. Flattered by his courtly attentions, congratulated by my fashionable friends, and captivated by his brilliant qualities, my imagination soon became excited to a degree which bore a strong resemblance to affection. He offered me his hand and was accepted. You look surprised, Emily; I thought you knew that I was actually engaged to him."

"Indeed I did not, Mildred, and I regret now to learn that such was the case. There is something to me very wrong,—I might almost say disgraceful in the disruption of such bonds; and the levity with which young ladies now make and break engagements, argues as ill for the morality of society, as does the frequency of bankruptcies and suspensions."

"I agree with you, Emily, and since it has become the fashion to consider the most solemn obligations only as a strait-laced garment which may be thrown off as soon as we can shut out society from our solitude,—since women pledge their hands without even knowing whether they have such an article as a heart to accompany it,—since men with equal ease repudiate their debts and their wives, I am afraid the next generation has little chance of learning morality from their parents. But sometimes, Emily, the sin is in making not in breaking the engagement. However, hear my story, and then judge."

"All the world knew that I was affianced to the handsome Frank Harcourt, and I was quite willing to enjoy my triumph as long as possible, before I settled myself down to the dull routine of domestic life. The disposition to defer my marriage might have led me to suspect the nature of my feelings, for no woman will ever shrink from a union with one to whom her soul is knit in the close bonds of affection. My lover was respectably connected, but had been educated for no profession and was not possessed of fortune. He had left his native village to find employment, and, as he hoped, wealth, in the busy mart of the Empire state. How he managed to satisfy my father, who, in the true spirit of an old Dutch burgomaster, looked upon every man as a rogue if he did not possess some visible occupation, I never could discover. He probably flattered his self-love by listening to all his schemes for the reformation of society; and I am not sure that he did not draw up the constitution and by-laws of a certain association which my father wished to establish,—to be entitled a 'Society for the Encouragement of Integrity among men of Business,' and of which the old gentleman meant to constitute himself president."

"It was agreed that our marriage should take place at the expiration of a year, and my father (who was as fond of coincidences as a newspaper editor) declared that on the very day of our nuptials, the name of Harcourt should be added to the very respectable firm of Marchmont, Goodfellow & Co. About this part of the arrangement I cared very little. Lenjoyed the present moment, and lavished my time, my thoughts and my feelings as foolishly as I did the gold with which my father supplied me. I was a mere child in my knowledge of the duties of life, and perhaps there never was one of my age to whom the word 'responsibility' was so mystical a sound."

"I soon discovered that I had a serious rival in the affections of my future husband. Frank Harcourt loved himself far better than he did his mistress; and though his tact enabled him to avoid any offensive expression of this Narcissus-like preference, it was still very perceptible to me. Yet how could I blame him when I looked upon his handsome person? Indeed I often found myself quoting Pope's celebrated couplet, but with a difference,

"If to his share a coxcomb's errors fall,
Look in his face and you forget them all."

The truth was, that my vanity induced me to excuse his weakness. I was proud of exhibiting, as my lover, the man whom all admired; and I felt redoubled satisfaction in hearing him applauded by the very people who had already bestowed on me the meed of praise. I was even so foolish as to be vain of his costume, and although I knew that he wasted hours upon the adornment of his person, I delighted to see him appear attired in that manner, so peculiarly his own, which gave a graceful negligence to a toilet the most *soignée* and made a fanciful poet once style his dress 'an elegant impromptu.' Like some other (so-called) impromptus, many a weary hour had been bestowed upon the task of making it seen extemporaneous."

The only one of Frank Harcourt's family with whom I then became acquainted, was his cousin Louis Heyward, and, among the whole circle of my acquaintances, there was no one whom I so cordially disliked. His form was diminutive and slightly misshapen, while his face would have been positively ugly, but for the effect of a pair of large, dark, soft eyes which seemed to speak a more fluent language than his lips. His manners were cold, quiet and indifferent; he mingled but little in society, and I think our well-filled library and my music alone induced him to conquer his reserve sufficiently to become one of my habitual visitors. To me he was always polite and gentlemanly but no more. He never flattered,—never even commended, though he often looked as if he would have censured, had he felt himself privileged to do so. Frank used to take great pains to bring him out into company. (Heaven forgive me if I wrong him in believing now that he wanted him as a foil to his own exceeding beauty,) but, excepting at our house, Louis was rarely seen in society. He had devoted himself to the gospel ministry, and, in order to support himself independently during the period of his theological studies, he had engaged to give instructions in some of the higher branches of education, at one of our principal schools."

In fact Louis Heyward was only a poor student, a school-master,—yet he dared to criticize the conduct of the flattered and spoiled Mildred Marchmont; and he alone,—of all the gifted and the graceful who bowed before her power,—he alone,—the deformed, the unlovely,—seemed to despise her influence."

"Pray how did you discover that he was actuated by such feelings? he surely did not venture to disclose them?"

"No, Emily; he was usually silent and abstracted in my presence. His relationship to Frank, placed him at once on a familiar footing in our family, and we soon became accustomed to his somewhat eccentric manners. When not listening to my harp or piano, he was often occupied with a book, seeming utterly regardless of every one around him. But, often, when I have been sitting in the midst of an admiring circle of 'danglers' bestowing on one a smile, on another a sweet word, on another a trifling command, and, in short, playing off the thousand petty airs which belles are very apt to practise in order to claim the attentions of all around them,—I have stolen a glance at that cold, grave countenance, and there has been such severe expression in his speaking eyes,—such a smile of contempt on his pale lip, that I have blushed for my own folly even while I hated the cynic who made me sensible of it. I was constantly disputing with him about trifling matters of opinion, and I delighted in uttering beautiful fallacies, which I knew he would contradict. It was a species of gladiatorial game which I enjoyed because it was new and exciting. I had been so long accustomed to assent and flattery that it was quite refreshing to meet with something like opposition, which could arouse the dormant powers of my mind. The information with which my early reading had stored my memory,—the quickness of repartee which generally belongs to woman,—the readiness to turn the weapon of the assailant with a shield for our own weakness, which is so very feminine a mode of argument,—all afforded a new gratification to my vanity, and while I heartily disliked the disputant, I yet eagerly sought the dispute. Louis at length discovered my motives for thus seeking to draw him into discussions, and, after that, no provocation could induce him to enter into a war of wit with me. In vain I uttered the most mischievous sophistries,—in vain I goaded him with keen satire; he smiled at my futile attempts, as if I were a petted child, but he never made me a reply. It was not until then that I estimated the treasures of his gifted mind, for when he no longer allowed himself to be drawn from his reserve,—when his fine conversational powers were no longer exerted, I felt I had lost a positive enjoyment which when in my possession I had scarcely thought of valuing."

"I happened one afternoon to be walking on the Battery with the two cousins, when he overtook an acquaintance who was unattended, except by a young brother. We immediately joined her, and, with a feeling of gratified vanity, (knowing that she had once dilapidatedly sought to attract Mr. Harcourt,) I stepped back, and taking the arm of Louis, left the lady in uninterrupted possession, for a short time, of my handsome lover. There was a mean and petty triumph in my heart at which I now blush, and, as I looked up to the face of my companion, after performing the manœuvre, I was almost startled at the stern contempt which was visible in his countenance."

"Come, Mr. Heyward, do make yourself agreeable for once," I exclaimed, with levity, 'do tell me you are flattered by my preference for your society.'

"I never utter untruths," was the cold reply.

"My first impulse was to withdraw my arm from his, but I restrained myself, and stigmatically said:

"You are as complimentary as usual, I perceive."

"Would you have me feel flattered by being made the tool of your vanity, Madam?" said he, while his cheek flushed and his eye sparkled; 'do I not know that you only sought to gratify a malicious triumph over your less fortunate rival?'

"A denial rose to my lips, but my conscience forbade me to utter it. I was perfectly silent,—yet, perhaps, there was something of penitence in my countenance, for he immediately added:

"Good Heavens! Mildred,—Miss Marchmont, I mean,—what capabilities of mind, what noble characteristics of feeling you are daily wasting in society! How rapidly are the weeds of evil passion springing up amid the rich plants of virtue which are still rooted in your heart! How awful is the responsibility of one so nobly gifted as yourself!"

"What do you mean, sir?" exclaimed I, startled at his earnestness."

"Have you never read the parable of the unfaithful steward who hid his talent in the earth?" was his reply: 'God has given you beauty and mental power, and wealth and influence; yet what is your beauty but a snare?—What are your talents but instruments to gratify your vanity? Where is your wealth expended if not in ministering to your luxuries? What suffering fellow-being has ever been cheered by your sympathy?—or what weak and erring mortal has ever been strengthened in duty, or wakened to virtue by your influence?'

"I cannot describe how deeply I was shocked and pained at these impressive words. A emotion resembling terror seized me;—I was actually alarmed at the picture he abruptly presented to my view."

"Louis continued: 'forgive me, Miss Marchmont, if I have trespassed beyond the limits of decorum. I speak the language of truth,—a language you are but little accustomed to hear; but my conscience and my heart have long reproached my silence.'

"You are a severe judge, Mr. Heyward," said I, with a faint attempt at a smile; and just at that moment we were interrupted by some jesting remarks from the party who preceded us. No opportunity was afforded for renewing our conversation; but as we approached home, Louis lingered so as to secure a moment's time, and said in a low voice:

"I will not ask you to forgive my frankness, Miss Marchmont, for something tells me that the time will come when you will not regret my apparent rudeness. I owe to you some of the happiest, and, it may be, some of the saddest moments of my life. Before we part, I would fain awaken you to a sense of your own true value, for amid all the frivolities which you waste your life, I have discovered that you were born for better things."

As he uttered these words, we found our selves at my father's door, and with a cold bow he turned away."

"That night I was engaged to attend a brilliant ball, but my spirits were depressed, and my brow clouded by unwonted sadness. Whether wheeling in the giddy dance, or gliding with light words and lighter laugh amid the groups of pleasure-seeking guests, still the deep voice of Louis Heyward rung in my ears; and the words 'you were born for better things,' were written upon every thing that I beheld."

"You are *triste* to-night *ma belle*," said Frank Harcourt, as he placed me in the carriage to return home: 'I shall be quite jealous of my crooked cousin, if a *tele-a-tele* with him has such power to dim your radiance.'

"Many a truth is uttered in the language of mockery. That walk with Louis had become an era in my life. How I longed to weep in solitude! The weariness and satiety which had long unconsciously possessed me,—the unsatisfied cravings for excitement, which had long been my torment, now seemed to me fully explained. Louis Heyward had unfolded to me the truth,—he had revealed the secret of my hidden discontent, when he told me *I was born for better things*. I had 'placed my happiness lower than myself,' and therefore did I gather only disappointment and vexation. Why did I not utter these thoughts to my affianced lover? Why did I not weep upon his bosom and seek his tender sympathy? Because I instinctively knew that he would not understand me. The charm which enrobed my idol was already unwinding, and I had learned that there were many subjects on which there could exist no congenial sentiments. For the first time in my life, I began to reflect; and, with reflection, came remorse for wasted time and ill-regulated feelings. Like the peasant girl in the fairy tale, mine eyes had been touched with the ointment of disenchantment, the illusion which had made life seem a scene of perfect beauty and happiness was dispelled forever, and I now only beheld a field where thorns grew beneath every flower, and a path where duties were strewn far more thickly than pleasures."

"A circumstance which soon after occurred confirmed my melancholy impressions. Do you remember little Fanny Rivers whom my mother took while yet a child, with the intention of making her my confidential servant and dressing-maid? She was about my age, and had grown up to be very pretty,—with one of these sweet, innocent, child-like faces, which are always so lovely in woman. Soon after your marriage she abruptly left my service, and much to my regret I was unable to obtain any trace of her. At the time of which I have just spoken, however, I received a note from her. She was sick and in distress, and she requested from me some pecuniary aid. I did not receive the appeal with indifference, and instead of merely sending her assistance I determined to seek her in person. I found her residing with a relative, a poor washerwoman, and as I sat by the sick bed of the young invalid, I for the first time beheld, with my own eyes, the actual life of poverty. Hitherto I had been lavish of money in charity, from a thoughtless and selfish wish to avoid the sight of suffering, but now I learned to sympathize with the poor and unhappy. Poor Fanny was

dying with consumption, and daily did I visit her humble apartment, led thither as much by my morbid and excited feelings as by my interest in the suffering sufferer. But it was not till she was near her death-hour that she revealed to me her painful story. Never shall I forget her simple words:

"I use to think, ma'm, that nothing was so desirable as fine clothes, and when I saw you dress in your beautiful silks and satins, I used to cry with envy because I was only a servant. As I grew older this wicked feeling increased, and often when you had gone to a party, I have locked myself in your dressing-room, and put on your laces, and flowers and jewels, just to see how I should look in such fine dress. I felt very proud when the large glass showed me that I looked just like a lady; but it only made me more envious and unhappy. At last my hour of temptation came. One,—whose name I have sworn never to reveal,—came to me with promises of all that I had so long wanted. He offered me silk dresses, and plenty of money, and said I should have servants to wait on me if I would only love him. He was so handsome, and he brought me such costly presents,—he talked to me so sweetly and pitied me so much for being a servant when I ought to be a lady, that I could not refuse to believe him. He told me I should be his wife in the sight of Heaven, and he ridiculed my old-fashioned notions, until he made me forget the prayers which my poor mother taught me and the Bible which she used to read to me. I was vain and so I became wicked. I sold my happiness on earth and my hopes of Heaven hereafter, for the privilege of wearing fine clothes; for, indeed, Miss Mildred, I never was happy after I left your house."

"I sought to learn no more of poor Fanny's history, Emily; I scarcely heard the tale of her subsequent desertion and destitution. My conscience was awakened, and fearfully did she kneel in my ears my own condemnation. 'Who made ye to differ?' asked my heart, as I gazed on this victim to vanity and treachery. Who taught this fallen creature to value the allurements of dress beyond the adornment of innocence? Who sowed in her bosom the seeds of envy and discontent, and nurtured them there until they bore the poisoned fruit of sin? Was I guiltless of my brother's blood? Had not I been the first tempter of the guileless child? Here, then, was an evidence of my influence;—how fatally exercised!"

"Emily, I have repented in tears and agony of spirit:—I have prayed that this weight of bloodguiltiness might be removed from my soul; and I humbly trust my prayer has not been in vain;—but even now my heart sickens at the recollection of the being whom my example first led astray. It was at the bedside of the dying girl,—when my spirit was bowed in humble penitence,—that the words of religious truth first impressed themselves upon my adamant heart. I had listened unmoved to the promises and denunciations of the gospel, when uttered from the pulpit; but now, the time, the place, the circumstance gave them tenfold power. I visited Fanny Rivers daily, until death released the penitent from her sufferings, and then, I fell into a deep melancholy from which nothing could arouse me, and for which no one could account."

"Frank Harcourt was annoyed and vexed at this change. He earnestly pressed our immediate marriage, and talked about a trip to Paris as an infallible cure for my 'nervous excitement.' But in proportion as my better feelings were awakened, my attachment to him decreased, until I actually shrunk from a union with him. He now appeared to me frivolous in his tastes, and the light tone with which he spoke of moral duties, though often listened to as an idle jest, in calmer times, now offended and disgusted me. In vain I tried to recall my past feelings. In vain I gazed upon his exquisite face and watched the movements of his graceful form, in the hope of again experiencing the thrill of pleasure which had once been awakened by his presence. The flame had been kindled at the unholy shrine of vanity, and already the ashes of perished fancies had gathered over it to dim its brightness. I could no longer cheat myself in the belief that I loved Frank Harcourt. He was still as glorious in beauty,—still the idol of society; but the spell was broken, and I looked back with wonder to my past delusion."

"You will ask where, during all these changes, was Louis Heyward. The very day after the conversation which has so awakened my remorse of conscience, he bade me farewell, having been summoned to take charge of a small congregation, and to 'build up a church in the wilderness.' I would have given much for his counsel and his sympathy, but he was far away, absorbed in noble duties, and had probably ceased to remember with interest, the being whom his *one true word* had rescued from destruction. I was exceedingly wretched, and saw no escape from my unhappiness. The approach of the period fixed upon for my marriage only added to the horror of my feelings, and I sometimes fancied I should be driven to madness."

"But the denouement,—a most unexpected one,—came at length. The aunt of poor Fanny, who was very grateful for my attentions to the unhappy girl, accidentally heard that I was on the point of marriage with Mr. Harcourt, and, instigated no less by revenge than by a sense of gratitude to me, she revealed to me the name which Fanny had sworn, and she had promised to conceal. You can imagine the rest, Emily. With the indignant feeling of insulted virtue and outraged womanhood, I instantly severed the tie that bound me to him. Did I not do right in breaking my engagement?"

"More than two years passed away. I had withdrawn from the follies, though not from the rational enjoyments of society; and, having joined myself to the church, I endeavored to live in a manner worthy of my profession. Alas! all my good deeds were insufficient to make amends for my wasted years and baleful example. The world ceased, at last, to wonder and ridicule my sudden reformation, (which they kindly attributed to my lover's fickleness,) and I was beginning to enjoy the peace of mind, always attendant on the exercise of habitual duty, when I was surprised by the intelligence that Louis Heyward had been chosen to succeed the deceased pastor of our church. The day when he preached his first sermon for us will long live in my remembrance. Associated, as he was, with my brightest and my dearest hours, I almost feared to see him, lest the

calm of my feelings should be disturbed by painful recollections. But he now appeared before me in a new and holier light. He was a minister of truth to the people, and mantling his pale cheek, and the pure light of zeal illumining his dark eyes, I thought there was indeed 'a beauty in holiness.'

"Do not think I was in love with our young pastor. I fancied that my heart was dead to such impressions, and it was only with quiet friendship that I greeted him when he renewed his acquaintance with her whom he had once known as the glittering belle of a ball-room. I saw him frequently, for I now understood the value of wealth and influence when they could be made subservient to the interests of religion and humanity. My purse as well as my time was readily bestowed for the good of others. Always in extremes, I was in danger of running into the error of fanaticism, and I owe it to Louis that I am now a rational, and I trust, earnest Christian. But a long time elapsed after this renewal of our intercourse before I was permitted to read the volume of his heart. It was not until he was well assured that the change which he beheld was the result, not of temporary disgust with the world, but of a thorough conviction of error, that he ventured to indulge the affections of his nature. He had loved me, Emily, during my days of vanity and folly. His cold, stern manner was a penance imposed upon himself, to expiate his weakness, and while he strove to scorn my levity, he was, in fact, the slave of my caprice. But he crushed the passion even in its bud, and forced himself to regard me only as his cousin's bride. Yet the glimpses of better feelings which sometimes struggled through every frivolity, almost overcame his resolution, and the conversation which first awakened me to reflection, was the result of a sense of duty strangely blended with the impulses of a hopeless passion."

"Perfect confluence now existed between us. My external life had been almost unbroken calm, but my heart's history was one of change and tumult and darkness. Louis wept,—aye, wept with joy, when he learned that his hand had sown the good seed within my bosom. It is Madame de Staël who says that 'Truth, no matter by what atmosphere it is surrounded, is never uttered in vain'; and I am a living proof that she is right. I have now been five years a wife; and, though my husband has not a face that lingers love to paint and ladies love to look upon,—though his form is not moulded to perfect symmetry, and his limbs lack the graceful comeliness of manly strength,—in short,—though he is a little, ugly, lame man, yet I look upon him with a love as deep as it is enduring, for the radiant beauty of his character has blinded my feeble eyes to mere personal defects. Frank Harcourt was the sculptured image,—the useless ornament of a boudoir, but Louis,—my own Louis is the unpolished casket,—rude in its exterior, but enclosing a pearl of price,—the treasure of a noble spirit."

"And what has become of your former lover?"

"He is the ornament of Parisian saloons; living no one knows how, but suspected to be one of that class, termed in England, 'flatchers,' lending the aid of his fine person and fascinating manners to attract victims to the gaming-table. He is said to be as handsome as ever,—dresses well, and is the admiration of all the young ladies as well as the dread of all the mammas who are on the watch to avoid 'indecencies.' And now that you have heard my story, Emily, are you still surprised at my choice?—Graham's Magazine.

"The Cultivator."

TO FARMERS AND GARDENERS.

THE CULTIVATOR, (a consolidation of Buell's Cultivator and the Genesee Farmer,) a monthly periodical, designed to improve the Mind and the Soil, and "to Elevate the standing and Character of the cultivators of the American Soil." V. W. GAYLORD and L. TUCKER, Editors. Published at Albany, (N. Y.) by Luther Tucker, proprietor, at one dollar per annum—Six Copies for Five Dollars—20 per cent commission on twenty-five or more subscribers—25 per cent on one hundred or more. All subscriptions to commence with a volume. All payments to be made free of postage. The paper can be furnished from its commencement—Vols. 1, 2, 3, and 4 at 50 cents each; and Vols 5, 6, 7, and 8, at \$1.00 each.

The publisher of the Cultivator has the pleasure of presenting to the friends of Agriculture in the United States, the prospectus of a new volume (the 9th) commencing January 1, 1842, of that periodical. The paper is so well known in every part of the country, as to render a recapitulation of its objects and contents, generally unnecessary. The range and variety of its articles,—its list of contributors, (embracing the most distinguished agriculturists in every section of the Union,) unrivaled in numbers as well as in scientific and practical skill,—the superiority of its mechanical execution, and the elegant and rich variety and superior beauty of its illustrations, embracing in the last two volumes about two hundred engravings, representing the improved breeds of Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Swine, Buildings, Implements, &c., and on every subject connected with agriculture, have contributed to render it a favorite with all classes interested in the cultivation of the soil, and given it a circulation hitherto unknown among the agricultural periodicals of the country—amounting to about Twenty-Two Thousand!

Grateful for the very favorable consideration the work has received and the extensive patronage awarded, the publisher would state that no efforts or expenses will be spared to give new and increased interest to the volume for 1842. It is intended to devote a larger portion of the work, (at least one page monthly,) to the subject of Gardening and the Orchard; and to enlarge the department devoted to Domestic and Rural economy, and to the diseases of Animals, so as to render them as useful as possible to all classes of our citizens. To accomplish this, such arrangements have been made as will place within our reach all European periodicals and publications important in agriculture and veterinary matters, and they will be made available in such a manner, as, in every respect, to render the Cultivator worthy the patronage it has received, and make it, all things considered, the cheapest and best Agricultural paper ever published in this or any other country.

Post-masters and all those kind friends who have heretofore with so much liberality and patriotism, as well as those who wish to "elevate the standing and character of the cultivators of the American Soil," are respectfully invited to use their influence in promoting its circulation by acting as agents in their respective neighborhoods.

Any gentleman wishing to obtain the Cultivator, let only hand him do so to the Postmaster of his neighborhood, who will forward it to the publisher free of expense.

ALBANY, DECEMBER, 1841.

JOHN MAY,

ATTORNEY AT LAW, Withrop, Me.

WILL attend promptly to all business intrusted to his care in the Counties of Kennebec, Oxford and Franklin.

P. S. J. M. would give notice that the accounts of John A. Pitts, are lodged in his office for immediate collection, and all persons indebted on the same are respectfully requested to call and settle. Withrop, Jan. 6, 1842.